



# Ayyad Algabyali

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni  
Ambassador

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***“My experiences taught me that diversity is what makes one’s circle stronger.”***

Ayyad interned as a Gilman Scholar at the United States embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he worked closely with career diplomats in the political, consular and management sections. He witnessed and experienced diplomacy in action, negotiations and conferences with international diplomats.

The exposure Ayyad had at the American embassy in Saudi Arabia, in addition to major shifts in the political climate in the United States, inspired him to make a difference at a more local level. Therefore, upon returning to the United States, Ayyad focused his Follow-on Service Project on introducing diplomacy to high schoolers, sharing how it shapes our international political spectrum and affects our daily lives.

Ayyad joined the Yemeni American Merchants Association (YAMA) as the Director of Advocacy where he served as the organization’s principal advocate on city, state and federal government affairs. He advocated policy priorities and strategies serving the Yemeni-American community.

Currently, Ayyad is working with the New York City Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs as a Neighborhood Organizer. He connects immigrant New Yorkers to city resources and services, and amplifies their concerns and needs to the mayor’s office.

- ★ Earned bachelor’s degree in political science, international studies and history from the City College of New York
- ★ Interned at United States embassy in Riyadh
- ★ Was Muslim Student Organization Project Leader
- ★ Worked as Director of Advocacy at the Yemeni American Merchants Association
- ★ Served as Neighborhood Organizer for the New York City mayor’s office

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